Infection Control Programme

2036. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position with regard to the programme for improvement of infection control and waste management through appropriate methods; and

(b) whether any significant progress has been noticed by Government?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (b) The Government of India (Ministry of Environment & Forests) has notified Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These Rules have prescribed mandatory steps to ensure handling of Bio-Medical waste without any adverse effect to human health and environment. This Ministry also has a programme under which financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 1.50 crores is provided to the State Government Hospitals for upgradation/creation of infrastructure for management of bio-medical waste.

In so far as Central Government Hospitals are concerned, an Infection Control Committee is in existence in each of the hospital and the Hospital Waste is disposed of as per the guidelines laid under the Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998. All these efforts have led to an improvement in management and control of infection in the hospitals.

National Commission on Macro Economics and Health

2037. DR.A.R. KIDWAI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Commission on Macro Economics and Health;